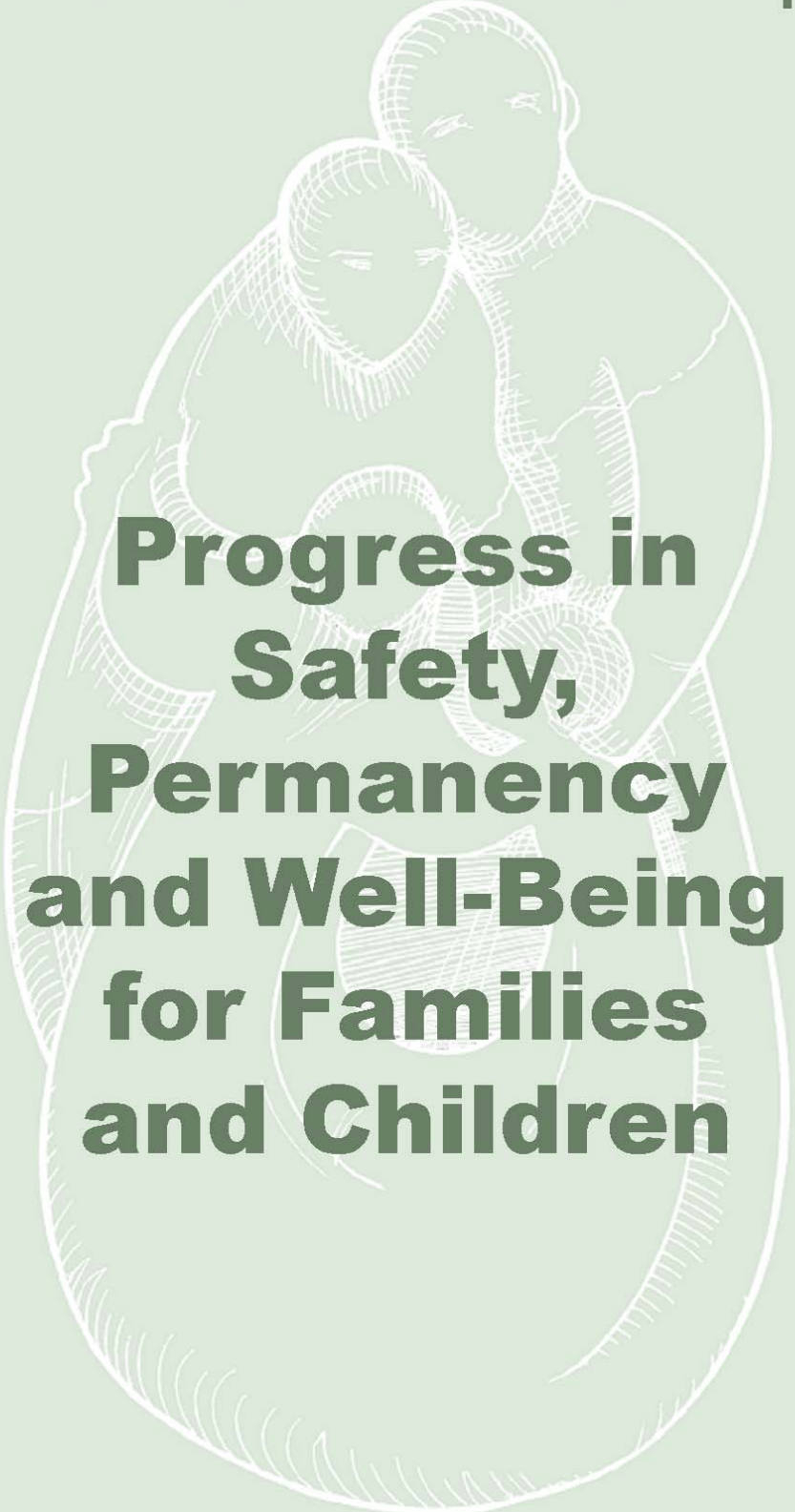


Utah's Division of Child and Family Services Fiscal Year 2004: Annual Report



Progress in Safety, Permanency and Well-Being for Families and Children



Division of Child and Family Services, Richard Anderson, Director
Department of Human Services, Ron Stromberg, Acting Executive Director
State of Utah, Jon Huntsman Jr., Governor

This document was prepared by the Utah Division of Child and Family Services.

Additional copies of the report may be obtained from the Child and Family Services Data Unit at the following address:

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Internet Address: <http://www.dcfhs.utah.gov/index.htm>

Front Cover Graphic

Last year, a local news reporter concluded a story he wrote, regarding the Division of Child and Family Services and our director, by describing a sculpture he had seen in the director's office. He described it as a family dancing together, and he said you could even see where the statue had broken in two, and had been carefully glued back together again. He perceptively used it as a good example of what the division tries to accomplish each and every day. We wanted to share this thought with you as our logo.

Utah's Division of Child and Family Services
Fiscal Year 2004: Annual Report

**Progress in
Safety,
Permanency
and Well-Being
for Families
and Children**

January 2005

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DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

To all those who care about our children and families...

It is with great honor and respect that we provide to you the annual report of the Division of Child and Family Services. DCFS, a most challenging and often misunderstood area of state government, is making continuous improvements, leading to better outcomes for children and families. Increases are showing up on almost all indicators of performance and management, while referrals for child welfare and domestic violence services markedly increased.

During this past year, we saw the following accomplishments:

- ◆ Our workers responded to another year of record high (20,999) citizen referrals of child abuse and neglect and to an increase in domestic violence referrals (4,645).
- ◆ There were significant increases in children going to live with kin instead of into foster care.
- ◆ Disruptions in adoptive placements continued to come down again this year to a relatively small number (2.5%).
- ◆ Reoccurrence of abuse was lower for the second year in a row.
- ◆ The number of children in foster care increased, but according to the most recent national statistics available, Utah still has the lowest number of children in foster care per 1,000 children in the population in the nation.
- ◆ Qualitative Case Reviews (both System Performance and Child and Family Status) overseen by the Federal Court Monitor showed increased performance. This was the first year that two regions (two of five) have passed this requirement of the court.
- ◆ All staff of the division are now fully trained on the Practice Model. New employees complete the required training and mentoring within six months.
- ◆ Our Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) has been successfully prepared, negotiated, and accepted by the Federal Administration for Children and Youth.
- ◆ Staff across the state were provided “Creative Interventions” training to promote more individualizing of services to meet specific needs of children and families.
- ◆ Several states and a few foundations visited Utah this past year to learn more about our Practice Model, our training program, and our Qualitative Case Review process.
- ◆ Increasingly, more youth are being sent to Utah through the Interstate Compact - 3,295 this past year (19% increase over last year).
- ◆ Caseworker turnover is at an all time low, and has been decreasing for several years, allowing for a more experienced and professional workforce.

In conclusion, we thank all of those who assist in this highly demanding and most beneficial work.



Richard J. Anderson, Director



Child and Family Services

Mission Statement

The mission of the Division of Child and Family Services is to protect children at risk of abuse, neglect, or dependency. We do this by working with families to provide safety, nurturance, and permanence. We lead in a partnership with the community in this effort.

Vision

Children, adults, and families enjoy safety, permanency, and well-being from their partnership with the community and Child and Family Services.

Agency Structure and Services

- ♦ **STATE OFFICE:** Child and Family Services is a state-administered agency within the Department of Human Services. The administrative office, located in Salt Lake City, includes the Director's office, finance management (including grants, contracts, and federal programs coordination), program management, policy and planning, and information systems development and maintenance.
- ♦ **REGIONS:** Delivery of services to children and their families is carried out through five geographically defined regions in the state. Each region has a region director who deploys resources, creates contracts, forms interagency partnerships, and sees to the management of their respective area.
- ♦ **REGIONAL SERVICES INCLUDE:** Child Protective Services (CPS), Home-Based Services, Kinship Services, Foster Care, Domestic Violence Services, Independent Living, Adoption, Interstate Compact (ICPC), and Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Services.

Regional Boundaries and Directors of Child and Family Services

Northern Region

Katy Larsen
Ogden Office
801-629-5800

Western Region

Brent Platt
Provo Office
801-374-7005

Southwest Region

Todd Minchey
Cedar City Office
435-867-2760

Salt Lake Valley Region

LaRay Brown
Holladay Office
801-264-7500

Eastern Region

Paul Smith
Price Office
435-636-2360

Statewide Director

Richard Anderson
Salt Lake City Office
801-538-4100



Practice Model

Quality outcomes are most often realized when children and families are engaged with a service organization offering an array of services delivered by qualified and committed staff. It is the aim of Child and Family Services to create such an environment. For the past several years, agency employees have been using the principles and key practice skills of the agency's Practice Model. The consistent application of this practice led to two regions successfully passing state Qualitative Case Reviews and the division being one of the three highest scoring states on the Federal Child and Family Services Review.

Practice Model Principles

1. **PROTECTION:** Children's safety is paramount. Children and adults have the right to live free from abuse.
2. **DEVELOPMENT:** Children and families need consistent nurturing in a healthy environment to achieve their potential.
3. **PERMANENCY:** All children need and are entitled to enduring relationships that provide a family, stability, belonging, and a sense of self that connects children to their past, present, and future.
4. **CULTURAL RESPONSIVENESS:** Children and families are to be understood within the context of their own family rules, traditions, history, and culture.
5. **PARTNERSHIP:** The entire community shares the responsibility to create an environment that helps families raise children to their fullest potential.
6. **ORGANIZATIONAL COMPETENCE:** Committed, qualified, trained, and skilled staff, supported by an effectively structured organization, helps ensure positive outcomes for children and families.
7. **PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE:** Children and families need a relationship with an accepting, concerned, empathetic worker who can confront difficult issues and effectively assist them in their process toward positive change.

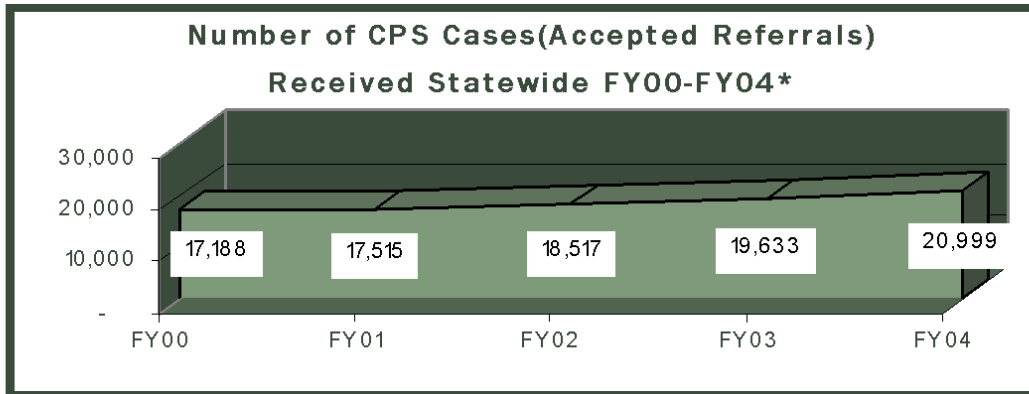
Essential Practice Model Skills

ENGAGING
TEAMING
ASSESSING
PLANNING
INTERVENING



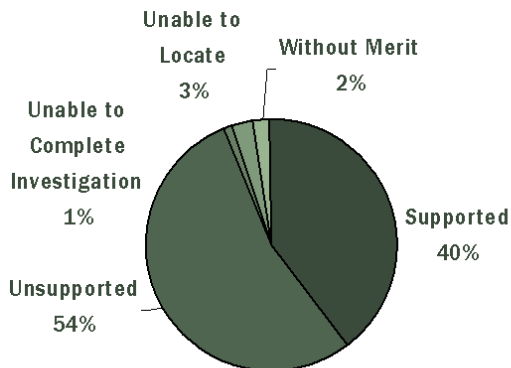
Child Protective Services

Workers effectively responded to a record high number of citizen referrals of child abuse and neglect.

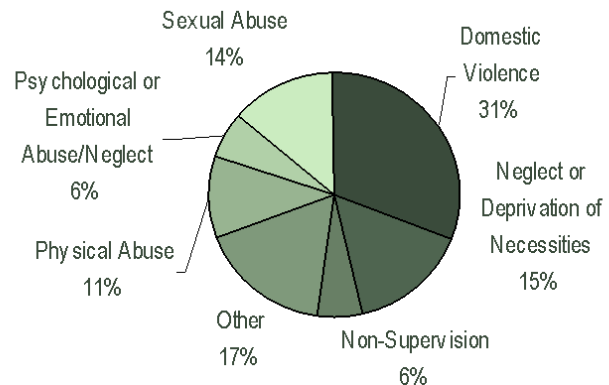


A finding is made for each child abuse and neglect case following the completion of an investigation. Case findings include “supported” (abuse or neglect is evident), “unsupported” (abuse or neglect is not clearly evident), and “without merit” (abuse or neglect is not even a consideration). The chart below shows each type of case and the percent of all supported findings for each. In FY 2004, 8,305 or 39.5% of the cases were supported. 1,116 or 9% of the total number of victims (12,582) had a foster care case opened.

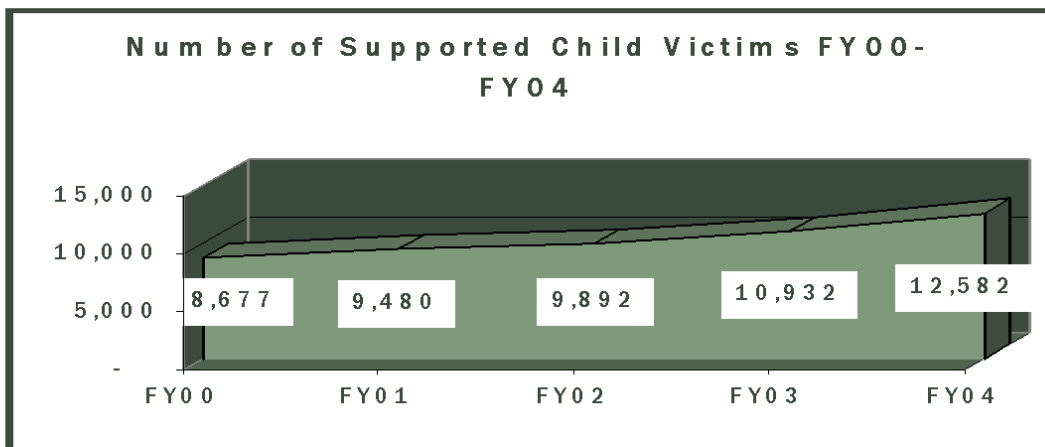
Total Cases By Result



**Supported Child Abuse/Neglect
by Allegation Type**



Child Protective Services (CPS) is the first step toward ensuring safety and permanency for children and families. CPS assesses both the child’s safety and the family’s functioning to maintain safety.



Relationship of the Perpetrator to the Victim

<u>Relationship</u>	<u>Number</u>
Parents	6,041
Relatives	1,138
Other	2,003

Safety for Children - Our Primary Objective

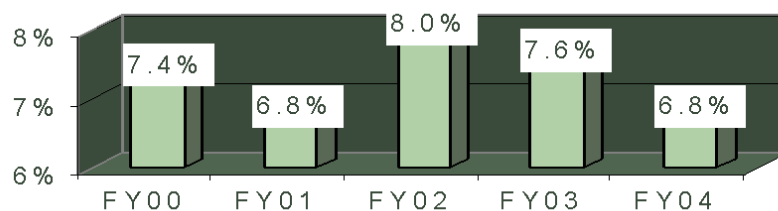
One safety outcome measurement is adherence with policy regarding the timeframes for initial contact with the alleged victim. Utah's standards are high, requiring the caseworkers to see the child face-to-face within one of three timeframes. Priority 1 is assigned to a CPS case when a child is in immediate danger. The first contact with the child must be made within one hour, or three hours in a rural area. Priority 2 is assigned to cases when the child may be at risk in the near future or when there may be a loss of evidence within a longer response time. This priority requires that the child be seen within 24 hours. **Priority 1 and 2 cases are met up to 91% of the time.** Priority 3 is for all other CPS cases and requires that the child be seen within three business days, our longest response time.

Percent of CPS Assessments Initiated Within Required Timeframes

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Percent</u>
2000	77%
2001	77%
2002	75%
2003	77%
2004	78%

Safety outcomes for children are also measured through Repeat Maltreatment or Recidivism. This measure looks at children who were victims of child abuse and/or neglect during the first six months of the year, who then have another supported incidence of abuse or neglect within six months. The Federal standard for this measure is 6.1%. Utah is very close to meeting this goal. Ideally, we want this percentage to be zero.

Percent of Child Victims with Another Supported Allegation Within 6 Months



Home-Based Services

Children should remain in their own homes whenever possible. Home-Based Services are provided when:

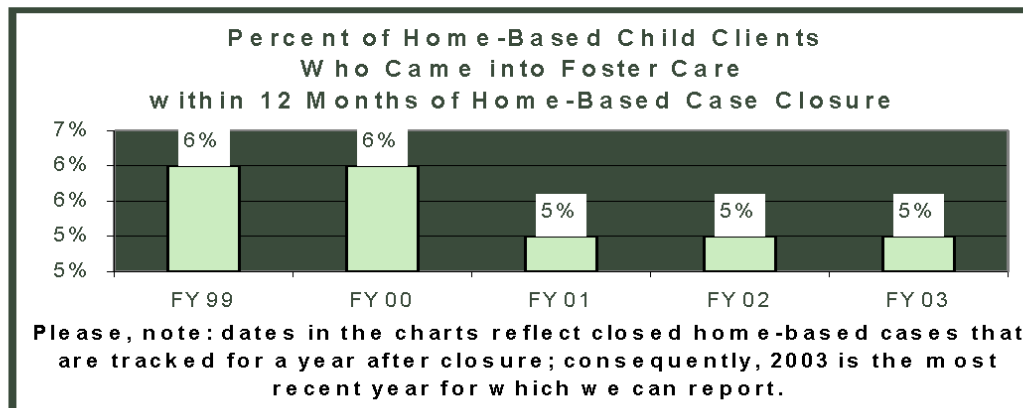
- ◆ A child is identified as being at risk and Home-Based Services may allow the child to remain safely in their home.
- ◆ A child is returning home from foster care.
- ◆ An adoptive placement is in jeopardy of disruption.
- ◆ Intensive support services are needed to facilitate reunification with parents or guardians.

Home-Based Services include:

- ◆ Counseling
- ◆ Advocacy
- ◆ Education
- ◆ Skill building

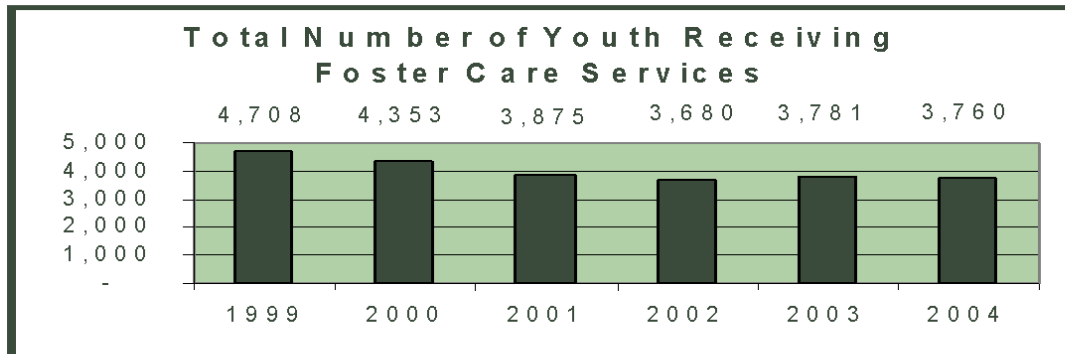
Over 90% of children who receive Home-Based Services are able to remain in their homes without the need for Foster Care Services. The number of children receiving Home-Based Services that enter foster care within a year is steadily decreasing, showing greater success in Home-Based Services.

Number of Home-Based Child Clients Whose Cases Closed During the Year					
FY99	FY00	FY01	FY02	FY03	FY04
5,692	5,783	4,893	4,601	4,754	4,508

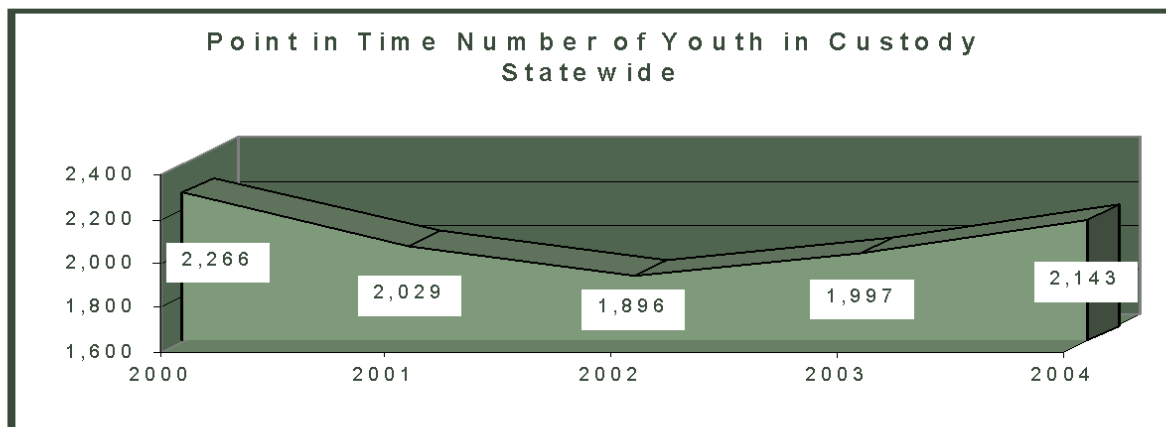


Foster Care

In FY 2004 the total number of children receiving Foster Care Services decreased slightly. Utah continues to have the lowest number in the nation of children in foster care per 1,000 children in the population.

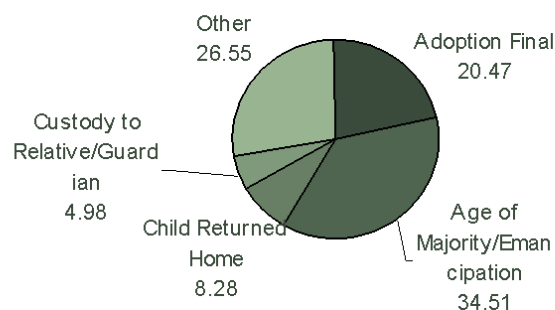


The graph below shows a point-in-time look at the number of children in foster care. The slight increase of children in foster care at the point-in-time, along with the slight decrease in overall children served, shows that children are staying in foster care slightly longer than in the past. Of all new foster care cases in FY 2004, 60% had contributing factors of drug or alcohol abuse as compared to 45% in FY 2000.



The average number of months in custody for cases closed in FY 2004 is shown in the chart below. The pie is broken down into reasons for exiting custody and therefore shows the average number of months in custody by where the child went at the completion of Foster Care Services. The average months in custody for all children is 12.89 months.

**Average Months in Custody for Cases Closed
FY04**



Kinship is an important part of foster care

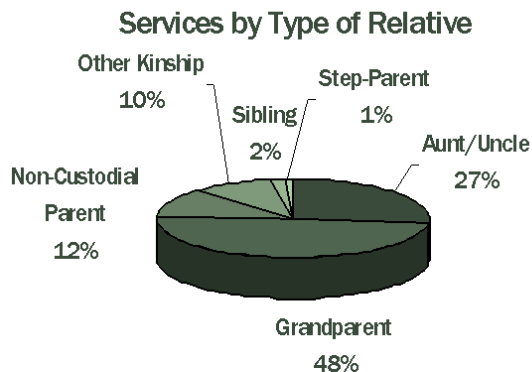
When a child cannot remain safely with his/her family, the Juvenile Court may order custody of the child to Child and Family Services. The first option considered by Child and Family Services is placement with relatives of the child. If necessary, a child may be placed in a foster home. Over the last year there were significant increases in children going to live with kin instead of in foster homes.

Number of Kinship Placements

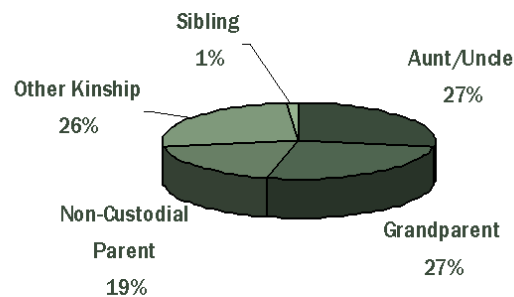
	FY00	FY01	FY02	FY03	FY04
Court-Ordered Supervision Kinship	1,181	1,701	1,815	1,811	2,182
Foster Care Kinship Placements	686	626	647	625	719

Children may be placed with a variety of relatives. Relatives may choose to become licensed foster care providers, or the court may give them custody of the child. If children are placed in the custody of relatives in a kinship placement, the Juvenile Court often orders Home-Based Services to support the family. The charts below show the percentage of children in a kinship placement. The first shows percent by type of relative placement for kinship not licensed as foster care. The second shows type of relative placement for kinship licensed as foster care.

Children in Kinship Placement with Home-Based Services by Type of Relative

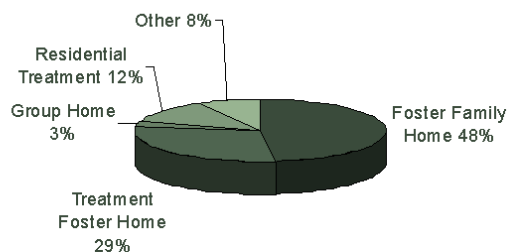


Children in Foster Care Kinship Placement by Relative Type



One of our main goals is permanency and stability for children. Every effort is made to assess the child's needs and match them to the best possible placement with the skills and abilities to meet those needs. Family settings, as opposed to group care or institutional care, are the first and most often used choice for children.

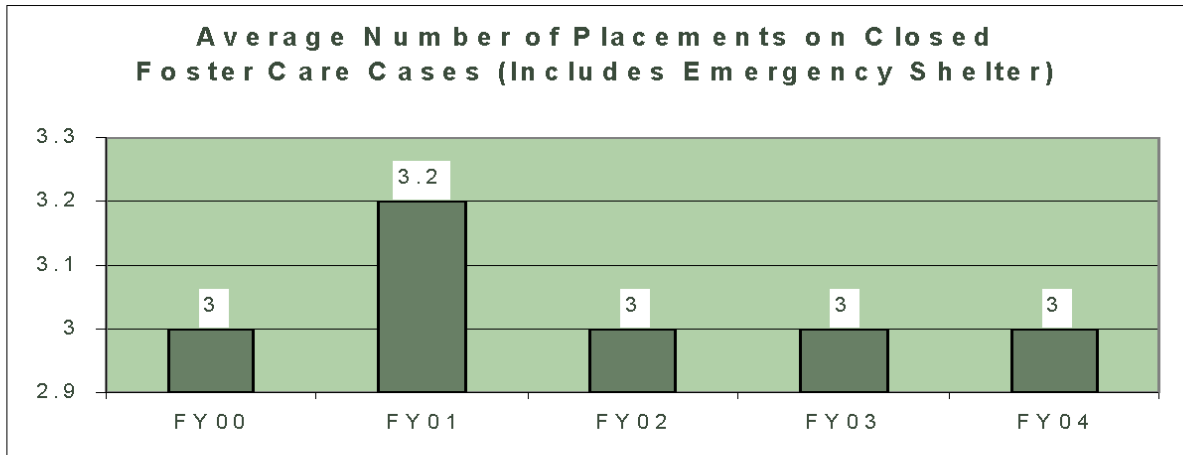
Placement Settings of Children in Foster Care



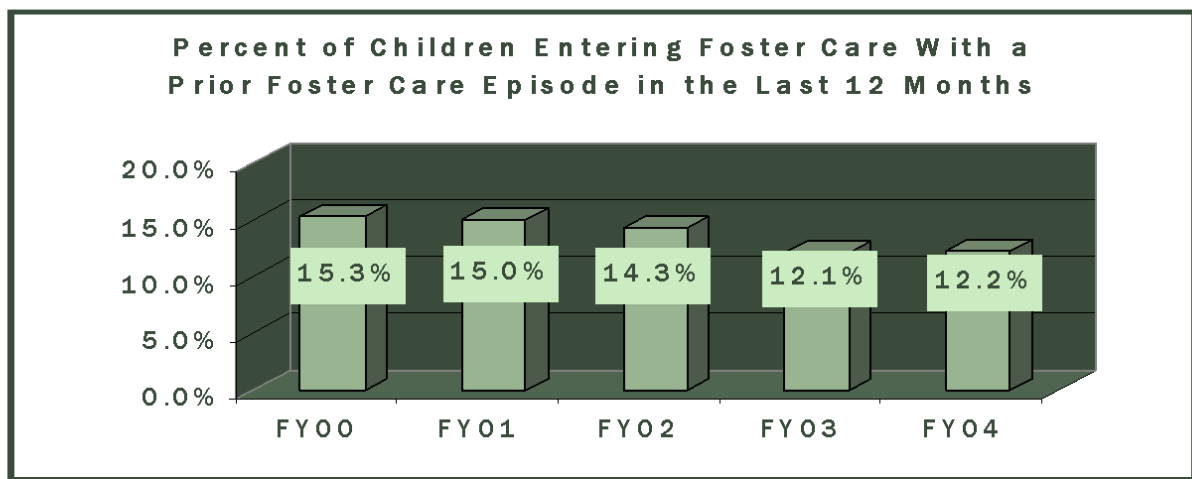
*Other includes trial home placements, runaway, and independent living placements.

** Foster Family Home and Treatment Foster Home include licensed kinship placements.

Stability in foster care is measured by the number of placement changes a child experiences while in foster care. Placement changes may be made for a variety of reasons, but any change for a child causes disruption. Our goal is “first placement - best placement.”



An additional outcome measure for the permanency and stability of children is the number of children who re-enter foster care.



In looking at re-entry into foster care, it is important to look at where these children are coming from. It is worth noting that 53% of the children re-entering foster care had previously exited to the custody of relatives. This does not necessarily mean that the children suffered additional abuse or neglect, but may simply mean that the relatives were no longer able to care for the child. The chart below shows the permanent place children went at the end of custody.

Reasons Children Exited Custody Fiscal Year 2004

Reason for Exiting Custody	Percent	Average Months in Custody
Custody Returned to Parents	35%	8
Custody to Relative	32%	5
Adoption	17%	20
Age of Majority	9%	35
Custody to Juvenile Justice	4%	24
Other (Guardianship to Foster Parents, Child Ran Away, Death)	3%	26

Health Services

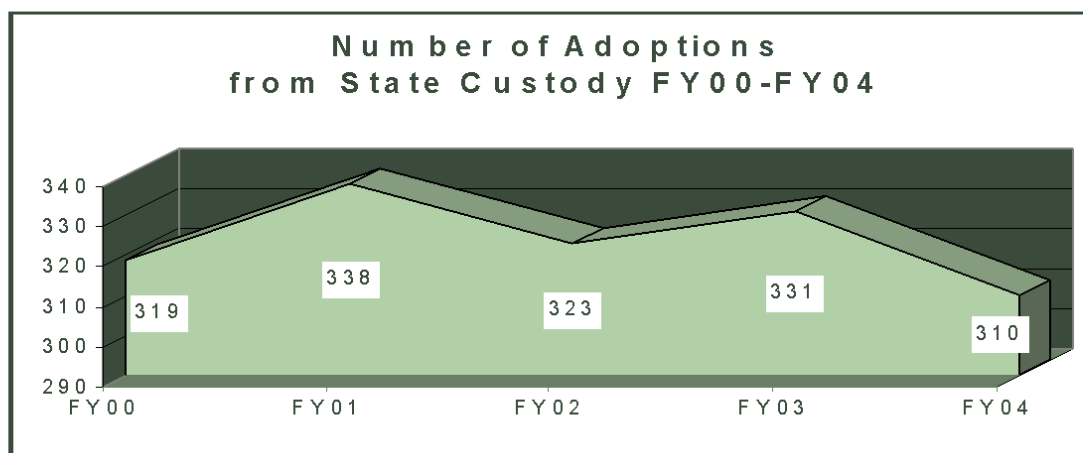
The well-being of children in foster care is of paramount importance. Child and Family Services partners with the Fostering Healthy Children Program (FHCP) of the Department of Health to ensure that the health care needs of children in Foster Care are met.

In fiscal year 2004, **all** children in foster care 30 days or longer had a health service recorded in the SAFE system.

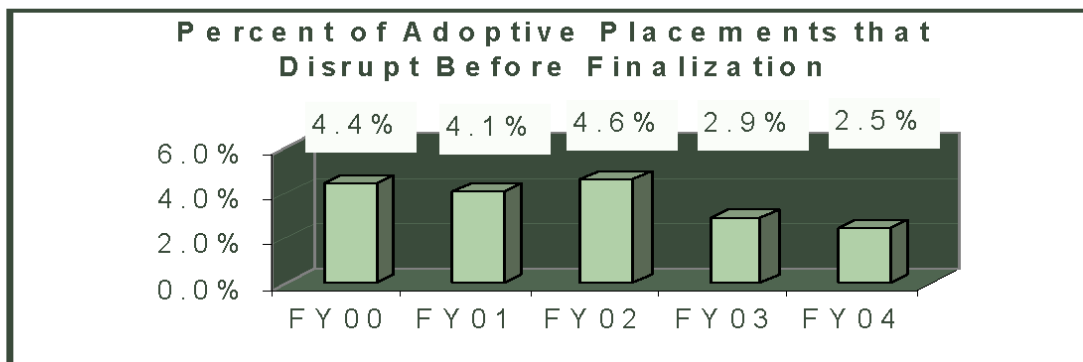
- ◆ 100% of children had a physical exam completed.
- ◆ 96% of children had a mental health exam completed
- ◆ 97% of children age three and older had a dental health exam completed.

Adoption

If a child is placed in foster care, and there is any reason to believe that the child may not be able to return to the legal custodian, the first placement, if possible, will be with a family who is willing to adopt. Relatives are given preference, but if they are not available, adoptive preference is given to the foster family. In FY 2004, 310 children transitioned to adoptive families from foster care.



In some rare instances even adoption may not be successfully accomplished for a child. However, the success rate is increasing in recent years. The percent of adoptive placements that disrupt before finalization decreased again this year.



Independent Living

Independent Living Services promote self-sufficiency and responsibility for youth in custody who are 16 years or older, with the option to serve youth as young as 14.

In fiscal year 2004, Child and Family Services joined with youth and community partners to develop a network of support for youth transitioning from foster care to successful adult living. This public/private partnership, known as Transition to Adult Living (TAL), became a major initiative of the Office of the Governor. The TAL implementation team chartered eight work groups to develop strategies that assist youth. Services or resources provided include:

- ◆ Driver's education – completed before leaving state custody.
- ◆ Northern Region pilot project – individualized transition plan to provide ongoing support as the youth leaves state custody.
- ◆ Ansell-Casey life skills assessment – identifies specific skills and developmental needs of the youth.
- ◆ Basic life skills courses – teach skills such as job training, money management, food purchase and preparation, community resources, self-awareness, self-esteem, decision-making, and parenting responsibilities.
- ◆ Independent living – an alternative living arrangement for youth in custody that fits the goal of Individualized Permanency Plan.
- ◆ Transitional support – Flexible funding through Chaffee Independence Act providing funding to meet the needs of the youth as they transition out of custody.
- ◆ Education and training vouchers – Chaffee funds have been made available through a Child and Family Services contract with the Department of Workforce Services to support youth enrolled in education or training programs.

1,025 children in foster care, age 16 and older, received Independent Living Services in FY 2004

TAL Work Group Areas of Focus:

- ◆ **Positive self image**
- ◆ **Supportive and enduring relationships**
- ◆ **Physical and mental health care access**
- ◆ **Educational attainment and stable employment**
- ◆ **Safe, stable and affordable housing**

Just for Youth website: As a part of the TAL initiative, a website was developed with resources and information that could be helpful to all youth who are entering adulthood. The website is:
www.justforyouth.utah.gov

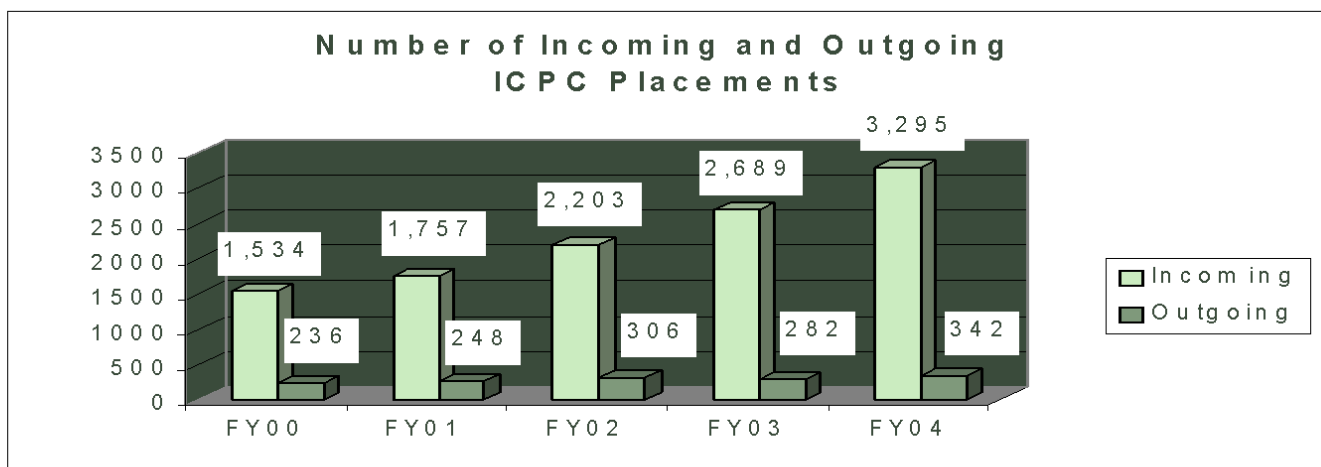


Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children

The Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children (ICPC) serves children coming into Utah or leaving the State of Utah for a placement in foster care or adoption. Children moving from Utah are almost always moving to live with relatives. The compact provides state-to-state cooperation in the placement of children and insures:

- ◆ Each child receives the maximum opportunity to be placed in a suitable environment and with persons or facilities that provide necessary and desirable care.
- ◆ Appropriate authorities in the state where a child is to be placed evaluate the proposed placement to insure that all requirements are met to protect the child.
- ◆ The evaluation of the proposed placement is sent to the placement state before the placement is made.
- ◆ Appropriate jurisdictional arrangements for the care of the child are promoted
- ◆ The placing agency is responsible for costs associated with placements.

States send referrals to other states and, if they are approved, a placement is made.



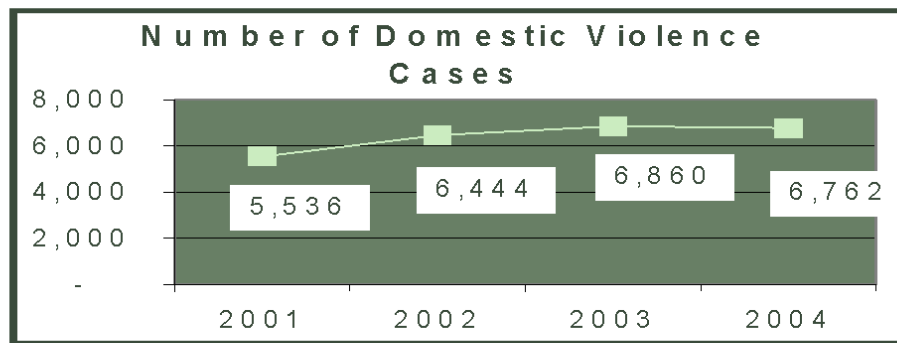
In FY 2004, 3,777 incoming ICPC referrals were received and 596 outgoing ICPC referrals were sent.

Children covered by adoption assistance agreements and under interstate compact are also covered by Interstate Compact on Adoptive and Medical Assistance (ICAMA). ICAMA provides for uniformity and consistency of policy and procedures when a family in another state adopts a child with special needs, or the adoptive family moves to another state. Currently, 47 states belong to the compact.

In FY 2004, there were 213 outgoing and 188 incoming ICAMA referrals.



Domestic Violence Services



Domestic Violence Services were provided in 6,762 cases last year, many involving children. The Division of Child and Family Services is also the mandated agency, through Utah law and by court order, to provide or fund Domestic Violence Services whether or not a child is involved.

Danger Factors	Number	Percent
Beating Abuse while Victim is Pregnant	453	10%
Children Witnessed/Aware of Abuse	2,082	44%
Frequent Alcohol/Drug Abuse	1,687	36%
Perp Controls Activities, Friends, Money	1,721	37%
Perp has Hurt a Family Pet	297	6%
Physical Abuse is Present	3,221	69%
Psychological Violence	3,244	69%
Sexual Abuse of Victim	453	10%
Threats of Suicide/Homicide	1,012	22%
Victim/Perp Identifies Mental Health Problems	997	21%
Victim/Perp Abused as Child	1,239	26%
Violation of Protective Order	232	5%
Violence Increasing in Frequency/Severity	1,524	33%
Weapon(s) use Present or Threatened	510	11%

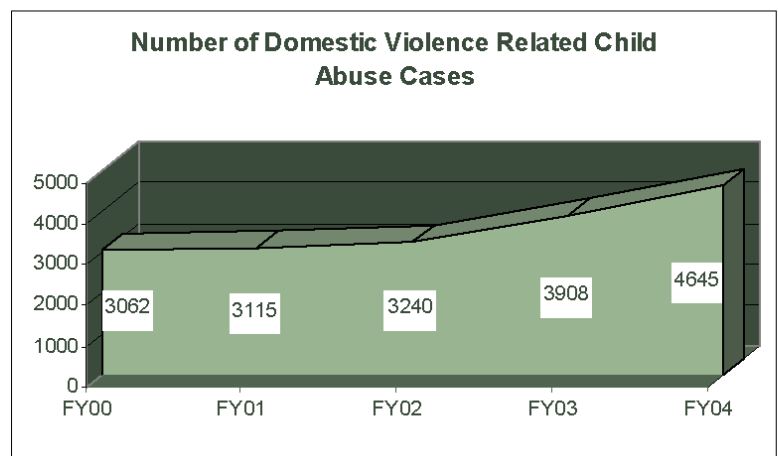
Services Provided	Number	Percent
Casework/Individual/Group Counseling	3,035	65%
CPS Referral Made	610	13%
Children's Treatment	370	8%
Community Resources	1,832	39%
Criminal Action Taken	490	11%
Day Care Services	158	3%
Health Services(Mental Health Included)	438	9%
Housing Authority	662	14%
Medical Referral Made	200	4%
Perpetrator Treatment	1,566	34%
Protective Order	741	16%
Self-Sufficiency Referral	363	8%
Shelter/Safehouse	1,633	35%
Treatment Tracking	1,109	24%

*Percents may not equal 100 because there may be more than one service or danger factor per case.

Utah law dictates that an act of domestic violence in the presence of a child is child abuse. Domestic Violence Related Child Abuse cases (DVRCA) are among those frequently referred by Utah citizens that have a high percentage of supported findings. Yet, rarely are children removed from the home, as the non-offending parent is usually able to keep the child safe. The number of CPS cases with domestic violence allegations continues to rise each year.

8,121 people received domestic violence services in FY 2004:

3,464 perpetrators
2,664 adult victims
1,801 child victims
324 other relatives

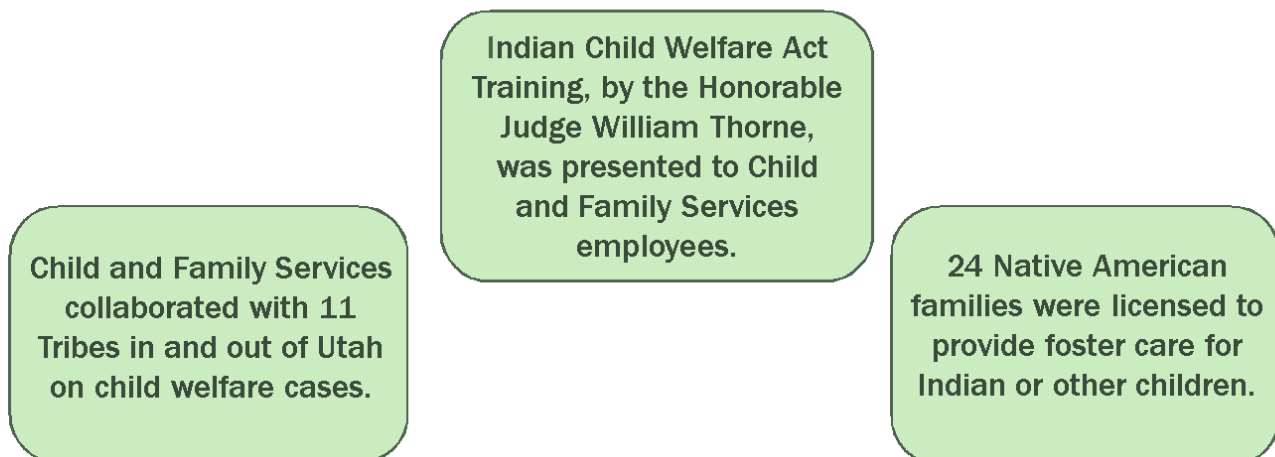


Indian Child Welfare Act

The Federal Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 (ICWA) was created to protect the unique political status of Native American and Alaska Native children. ICWA requires that the Tribe be notified if a child who is registered with the Tribe or who is eligible for registration receives services from a child welfare agency.

In fiscal year 2004, the following activities helped to strengthen the knowledge of, and ability to comply with, ICWA:

- ◆ Protocol was developed as an addition to the Qualitative Case Review to determine ICWA compliance and improve front-line practice.
- ◆ Development of an ICWA training module to be included in New Employee Training
- ◆ Partnering between Utah Foster Care Foundation and The Salt Lake's "Utah Native American Children's Coalition" (UNACC) and the Indian Walk-In Center (IWIC) to recruit Indian foster families at Pow Wows and other Native American events.
- ◆ ICWA SAFE updates facilitate the recording of Tribal information, ethnicity for persons other than child clients, and the ability to enter multiple Tribe information. SAFE added questions to help assess ancestry to field guide.
- ◆ Child and Family Services sponsored the Third Annual Indian Child Welfare Conference in May 2004.
- ◆ Intergovernmental agreements with both the Navajo Nation and the Ute Tribe are being updated.



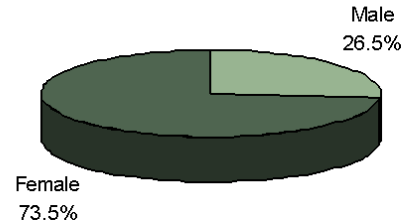
Caseworkers

Caseworkers are required to have a baccalaureate degree in a behavioral science and be licensed as a social services worker within one year of employment. We currently have 1,113 employees serving in various assignments.

The average caseworker is:

- ◆ Caucasian
- ◆ Female
- ◆ 32.5 years old
- ◆ Child and Family Services employee for 5.7 years

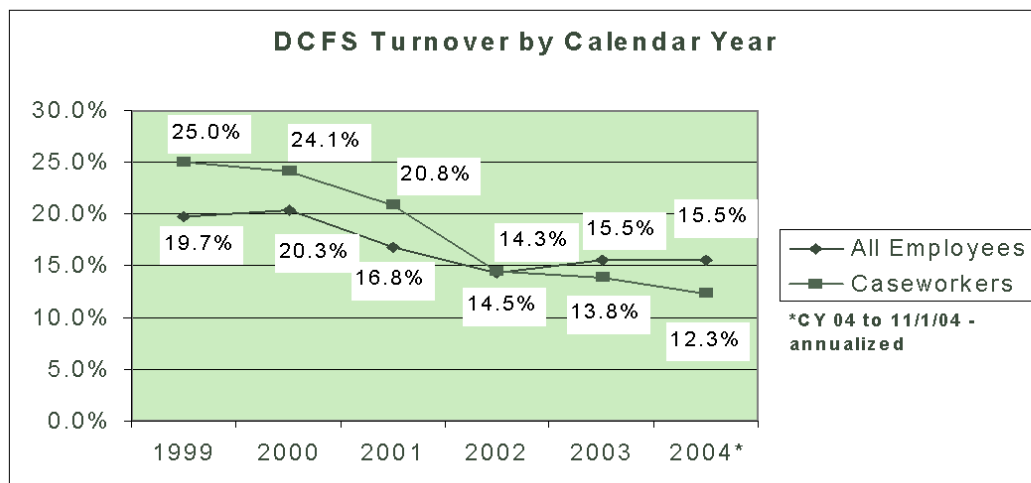
Caseworker Breakdown by Gender FY 2004



Caseworker salaries are shown in the table below.

Fiscal Year 2004	Starting	Average
Salary alone	\$26,707	\$31,990
Salary with benefits	\$41,887	\$48,685

The turnover rate of caseworkers has steadily decreased and is now at an all time low, allowing for a more experienced and professional workforce.



Training

Caseworkers receive extensive training on the division's Practice Model to develop skills in Engaging, Teaming, Assessing, Planning, and Intervening. All caseworkers hired prior to 2004 have now completed Practice Model training. New employees receive Practice Model training as they are hired. Nearly all new employees complete the required Practice Model training and mentoring within six months of hire.

Child and Family Services is continuously developing consistent in-service programs. In 2004 the following conferences/workshops were held:

- ◆ Quarterly workshops for clinical staff.
- ◆ In-service training on topics of domestic violence, developing creative interventions and documentation.
- ◆ Support Staff received specialized job related and Practice Model training and annual conference workshops.
- ◆ Supervisor conference focused on data and the use of data in management.
- ◆ The annual Child Welfare Institute for direct service staff, foster parents, and administrators. This conference was held in conjunction with the Indian Child Welfare Conference.

Caseworkers are required to obtain 40 hours of ongoing training each year. Practice Model training totals 120 hours.

This year staff was trained on "Creative Interventions" to promote more individualizing of services to meet specific needs of each child and family.

Practice Model training has been provided by the division to many community partners listed below to build a stronger system of care for children and families:

- ◆ Foster parents.
- ◆ Mental health and other service providers.
- ◆ Nurses.
- ◆ Domestic Violence shelter staff.
- ◆ Educators.
- ◆ The Christmas Box House staff.
- ◆ Child and Family Services Board members.
- ◆ Some legislators.
- ◆ Legal representatives.
- ◆ Tribal partners.



Data Collection and the SAFE System

The SAFE system is the computerized management information system developed by Child and Family Services to manage and document services to children and their families. SAFE is recognized nationally as one of the best child welfare information systems in the country, especially in the level of support provided to front line workers.

This year the requirement to voice record interviews with the child was initiated. These recordings are digital and are included in the SAFE system. The SAFE system also allows for an infinite number of reports on the data collected. These reports are increasingly being used to help manage the work of Child and Family Services.

There were five SAFE releases this year, updating and improving the system. Major improvements and additions included the following:

- ◆ SAFE access to Guardian Ad Litem's and court clerks as specified by H.B. 60 and H.B. 97 (2004 session).
- ◆ Added attorney-client privilege flag to worker case activity records, to improve confidential nature of these records.
- ◆ Added new case types:
 - ◆ IHS (Independent Home Studies) to provide better records of various home studies performed by caseworkers.
 - ◆ DVI (Domestic Violence Incidents) to document where law enforcement responded to a domestic violence incident, to provide added background for investigating child abuse.

SAFE is an invaluable tool for Child and Family Services employees and the public.

**The use of SAFE has
increased by 35% in the past
six years.**



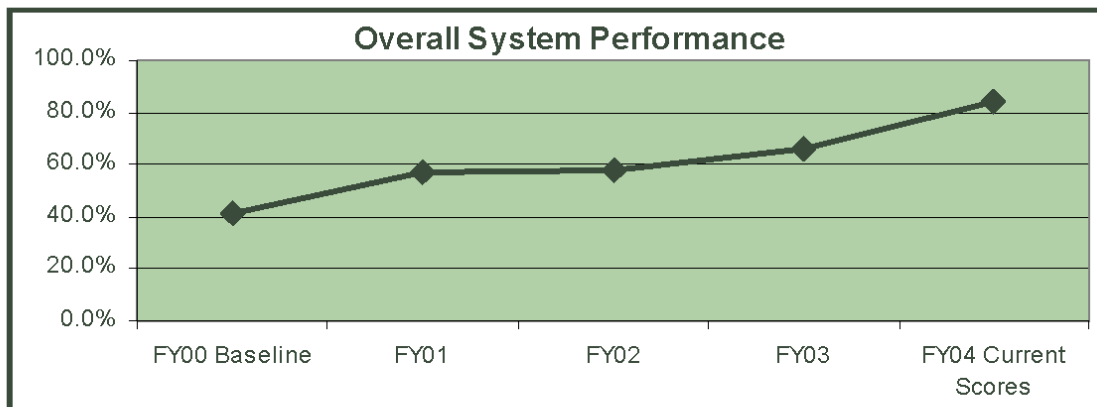
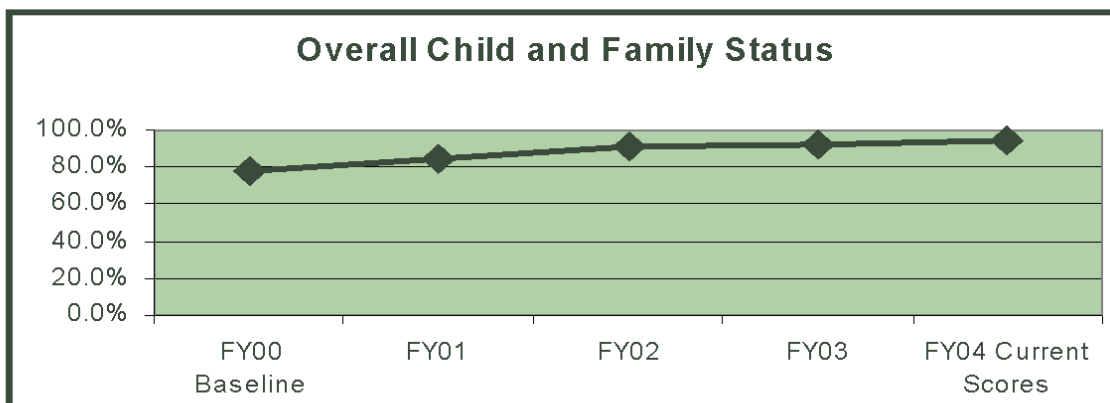
Monitoring Systems

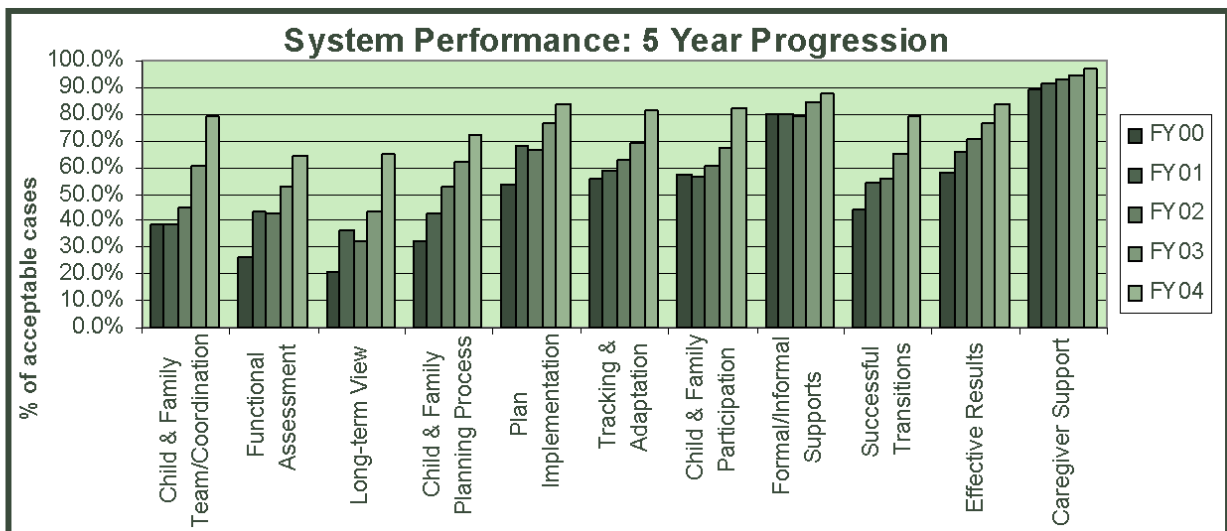
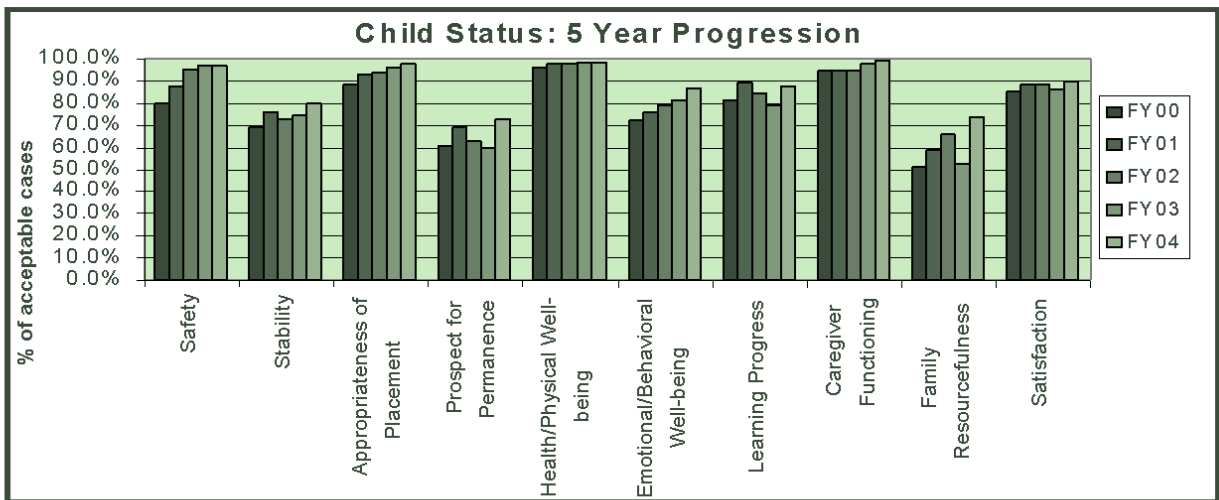
Federal and State governments each provide authorizing legislation that guides some Child and Family Services practices. These entities each have a system of monitoring to ensure that the division is adhering to the laws.

Child and Family Services continues to make progress on the Performance Milestone Plan (“The Plan”) action items and the case reviews associated with the Plan overseen by the Federal Court. During 2004, 98% of the action items due to date were completed. There are only two items still in process.

This year, two of the five regions, Southwest and Salt Lake Valley, scored above the passing range on the Qualitative Case Review. If these regions score in the passing range in 2005 they will have completed that Milestone in the Plan. Each of the regions saw an overall improvement in achieving the required service quality in both the Child and Family Status domain and the System Performance domain. Child and Family Services continues to make overall progress in each of the domains.

Child and Family Services Statewide Qualitative Case Review:





The other review associated with the Milestone Plan, the Case Process Review, showed improvement in some areas and a decline in others. Further intensive research on the connection between these processes and good outcomes is in progress to better understand what conclusions can be drawn from the results of the review.

Each child in foster care is reviewed during their first year in care by the Foster Care Citizen Review Board. Recommendations are made to Child and Family Services personnel working with the family.

Child and Family Services is also working on the requirements of the new Federal Child and Family Services Review. The Program Improvement Plan (PIP) associated with this review, was approved on July 15, 2004. Child and Family Services is now in the two-year period of PIP implementation. The first of eight quarterly reports was submitted in November 2004.

Reports and review results are available on the web at www.dcf.utah.gov.



Community Concerns

Citizens that have concerns about Child and Family Services are encouraged to call their local offices. If issues are not resolved, they may call the division Constituent Services Manager at (801) 538-4439, or the Office of Child Protection Ombudsman at (801) 538-4589.

Child Abuse Prevention and Community-Based Family Support Programs

Prevention Programs are funded through and by Child and Family Services.

Child and Family Services receives limited funding for the following child abuse prevention and community-based family support programs:

- ◆ **Title IV B part two of the Social Security Act, Promoting Safe and Stable Families - Family Support:** Grantees provide community-based family resources and support based on assessed community needs. Currently, Child and Family Services funds 11 programs in four regions of the state.
- ◆ **Children's Trust Fund Account:** Grantees provide child abuse prevention education, service, and treatment based on assessed community needs. Currently, Child and Family Services funds 34 Children's Trust Account programs in every county throughout the state.
- ◆ **Family Support Centers:** Family Support Centers provide Crisis/Respite Care for children 0-12 years, parent education and support, advocacy for children and families, and other services based on the needs of the community in which the center is located. Child and Family Services funds 12 Family Support Centers statewide.
- ◆ **Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention Grant:** The Board of Child and Family Services authorized the creation of a Child Abuse Prevention Task Force to develop recommendations to strengthen child abuse prevention efforts in Utah. Task force recommendations will be completed during State FY2005. Grant funds, used in conjunction with funds donated from public and private sources, support the task force's work.

In addition, grant funds enable community developers in five communities to build coalitions and establish development initiatives that address child abuse prevention and community needs. Community developers are funded in Salt Lake County and in rural Eastern Utah.

Combined, these grants represent a small, but important investment in preventing child abuse.



Budget

The Division of Child and Family Services received an appropriation of \$62,904,400 from the State plus \$64,802,900 from Federal Grants, Social Services Block Grants, and other funds, making a total amount available of \$127,707,300 for Fiscal Year 2004. The legislative appropriation included funding for 52 additional caseworkers to meet increasing caseloads and stay within the caseload levels recommended by the Office of Legislative Audit as part of the Federal Court Oversight. The funding was utilized as shown below:

General Expenditure Categories	Expenditure Amount
Personnel costs for providing direct services to clients, supervision and general administration of programs	\$65,898,825.00
Payments to contracted providers for direct services to children in state custody	\$30,410,778.00
Subsidies and medical payments for special needs adopted children	\$11,242,560.00
Other programs including home-based services, domestic violence services, operation of shelters, etc.	\$20,155,837.00

